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**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KIT YENG LIM  
JEFF W. MOEHLLENBRUCK

Serial No.: 10/023,911

Filed: December 18, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD TO  
STABILIZE AND REPAIR AN  
INTERVERTEBRAL DISC

Confirmation No.: 4817

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Anuradha Ramana

Attorney Docket: 2103.014100/RFE  
(SBI-100)

**CUSTOMER NO. 45488**

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED MARCH 18, 2005**

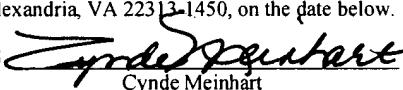
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

July 15, 2005

  
Cynde Meinhardt

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2005, for which the three-month date for response was June 18, 2005.

A request for a one-month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This one-month extension will bring the due date to July 18, 2005, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R.

§§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2103.014100RE.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the Amendment to the Claims at pp. 3-8 and Remarks at pp. 9-13.